



Office of the Governor

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNOR

PRESS RELEASE

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Statement by California HHS Agency Secretary Kim Belshé Regarding Health Care Reform

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Health and Human Services Agency Secretary Kim Belshé today released the following statement after Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez and Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata announced new health care reform legislation:

"This new proposal helps to move the ball forward and is a step in the right direction. We are evaluating the details of the plan and there are still important differences that need to be negotiated, such as ensuring we protect small employers and California jobs."

In addition, Assembly Republican Leader Mike Villines introduced his caucus' health care reform proposal today.

"We're pleased the Assembly Republicans have put forth their ideas for health care reform. Elements of their plan, such as tax credits to increase affordability and raising Medi-Cal reimbursement rates, are similar to what the Governor has proposed.

"It is abundantly clear that now is the time for comprehensive health care reform. The Governor looks forward to sitting down and negotiating with legislative leaders on a bill that he can sign."